

Within her 6 years of service as a Colorado State senator, Senator Tanner sponsored legislation on key issues such as marital discrimination in the workplace and worked tirelessly for civil rights for women and minorities and parental rights for adoptive parents. She was one of six legislators selected to serve on the powerful joint budget committee. In serving on the JBC, Senator Tanner secured a quarter of a million dollars to help restore the town of Dearfield, CO, which was originally created to assist former slaves and their families. She was a strong legislative advocate for women and children throughout her service as a senator.

In retirement, Senator Tanner continues to serve the public. In 2001, she established the Senator Gloria Tanner Leadership and Training Institute for Future Black Women Leaders of Colorado, FBWLOC. Senator Tanner believes the institute is “essential to the well-being and growth of our community” to identify, prepare, educate, and encourage Black women to take on leadership roles in the public and private sectors.

Senator Tanner’s contributions to our community and State are abundant and unprecedented. Through all of her life experiences, she has continued to serve the American people with unwavering integrity and grace. A recipient of the Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award, her success is immeasurable.

We all owe a debt of gratitude and deep respect to Senator Gloria Travis Tanner for her life achievements and service to the people of Colorado. I thank her for her service to Colorado, our Nation, and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.●

#### 2017 IDAHO HOMETOWN HERO MEDALISTS

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the 2017 Idaho Hometown Hero Medalists.

Members of Idaho communities nominate their fellow community members for the Idaho Hometown Hero Medal. The medal honors individuals who are extraordinarily dedicated to hard work, self-improvement, and community service. Drs. Fahim and Naeem Rahim established the Idaho Hometown Hero Medal in 2011 to recognize outstanding Idahoans working for the betterment of our communities.

Ten Idahoans working in various fields are 2017 Hometown Hero Medal recipients, and I understand that this year special emphasis is being placed on those who “Overcome Adversity” as the 2017 theme of the awards. Century High School principal Sheryl Brockett, of Pocatello, is being honored for her two decades of dedicated service to educating youth in which she also led her school to excel in providing educational opportunities. Dr. Jacob DeLaRosa, a cardiothoracic surgeon from Pocatello, overcame significant

injuries from a car accident to walk again, continue providing surgical care, and significantly contribute to the community by expanding area surgical operations. Lee Hammett, president of the board of directors for the Community Dinner Table, is being recognized for his extensive work to reduce hunger and loneliness and helping to bridge cultural and religious differences in Bingham County. Owner of Barrie’s Ski and Sports Store Barrie Bennett Hunt, of Pocatello, received the medal for helping to provide others with quality access to the outdoors, inspiring active lifestyles, and giving considerably to his community, while also overcoming serious health challenges.

Executive director of the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence Kelly Miller, of Boise, is a statewide leader in ending violence and has made a considerable difference in assisting Idaho families. Manager of Morgan Construction Matt Morgan, of Idaho Falls, is honored for his courageous voice in helping advance awareness of the sexual abuse of children and his support of others who have faced child abuse, such as he did. His efforts include founding “Building Hope Today.” World War II veteran Anton Newman served in the U.S. Army, assisting with recovery after the Hiroshima bombing, has farmed in Cambridge, and continues to be actively involved in the community encouraging and inspiring others while overcoming considerable health challenges. Retired U.S. Army COL Craig W. Nickisch, of Chubbuck, served our Nation with distinction in Central America, Europe, and Southeast Asia and continues to serve others in various roles locally and internationally. Shoshone-Bannock Tribe member and the Tribe’s public affairs manager Randy L Teton overcame adversity to reach educational goals and has encouraged Native American education, helping educate others about the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe’s history, culture, government, and economic projects. Eric Thomas, of Fremont County, has not let his disability and multiple health concerns stand in the way of him assisting others as an active member of Fremont County Search and Rescue for the past nearly 30 years.

These 10 remarkable Idahoans are now counted among the 66 Idahoans recognized through the Hometown Hero Award since its inception and the countless service-focused Idahoans who have not yet been honored but give immeasurably every day. I thank the Rahims, the award’s committee members, the cosponsors, volunteers, and other organizations supporting this honor for their work to shine a spotlight on exceptionalism in our communities.

Joining in recognizing the good works of Idaho’s Hometown Heroes is an honor. I also thank the award recipients for leading by example in our communities. You may never know

how many others you inspire to go above and beyond in assisting others and improving our communities, but there is no doubt you are leaving a lasting, positive mark in many lives. Congratulations to the 2017 Hometown Hero Award recipients on your achievements, and thank you for your efforts to better our communities.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RUSTY TALBOT

● Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, this month, I am proud to recognize Rusty Talbot, of Sugar Hill, NH, as our Granite Stater of the Month for his dedication to supporting our vibrant North Country communities.

As the founder and owner of the North Country Climbing Center, Rusty and his wife have built a small business that has been described as an “inclusive community,” where he strives to create a welcoming environment for both experienced climbers and beginners. He has worked diligently to engage with various organizations throughout the community, like the Adaptive Sports Partners of the North Country, which empowers individuals who experience disabilities to experience rock climbing.

Rusty is also involved with local business and entrepreneurship groups, including the Franconia Notch Regional Chamber of Commerce, the North of the Notch Young Professionals Network, the Littleton Rotary Club, and the Bethlehem Colonial Theatre. His commitment to supporting the local economy and other small businesses, in addition to his own successful climbing center, earned him Stay Work Play’s Young Professional of the Year award. As New Hampshire continues to work to attract young people, his nominator noted that Rusty has “reminded us why we chose to live and play in northern New Hampshire.”

In addition to running his business, Rusty also dedicates his time to the Sugar Hill Fire Department, where he is a volunteer firefighter, and the Pemigewasset Valley Search and Rescue Team, for which he is a lieutenant. Earlier this year, Rusty participated in the successful search and rescue effort for a hiker who had been missing in the White Mountain National Forest for days before he was found. In describing his motivation for volunteering for these critical public safety entities, Rusty says, “In this community, people help each other. Not because it’s required or because it’s our job to do so, but because we are all in this together.” That pervasive sense of selflessness and community solidarity is what makes the Granite State unique.

Throughout New Hampshire, citizens just like Rusty give back to their community, look out for their neighbors, and do what they can to help make our beautiful State a stronger place so we can all grow and thrive together. Rusty embodies the all-hands-on-deck spirit that we all strive to fulfill, and I am honored to recognize him as our Granite Stater of the Month for October.●